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Dear Dave: From a birthday card that our mother sent me, I get the impression that you told them some kind of a white lie about that $6,000 check business. Since I gave you full discretion to do what you wanted in regard to that business, I will not complain about your fib. But I would prefer that you tell them the truth about it. This is neither a complaint nor a demand — it is merely the expression of a preference.

By the way, I came across something in a store in Helena that might interest you — a very small, light portable water-filter that claims to remove giardia. Costs $18 or $19, replacement filter I think was around $8, one filter is good for 400 gal. water. With that + purifying tablets to kill bacteria I imagine you'd be alright. Of course, as you know, I take a dim view of bringing technological stuff like filters and tablets into the wilderness; though I wouldn't swear that there might not be certain circumstances under which I might use such a thing.

i.e., suitable for carrying on a hike

Cosa interesante: por extraño que parezca, la palabra inglesa much NO está relacionada con la palabra española mucho. Según mi diccionario inglés, much se deriva de la palabra anglo-sajona micel; mientras que mucho se deriva — según creo — de la palabra latina multus, que también significa "much". Pues, no supongo que te intereses por semejantes asuntos. ¡Bah!. ¡Tienes el alma de un nabo! Pero, ¿Qué dirías si te dijese lo que sigue a continuación?: Todos los idiomas europeos — con unas pocas excepciones — pertenecen a la gran familia indoeuropea, que incluye también muchos idiomas asiáticos, incluso los más de los idiomas de India, como el sánscrito. Comparando los diversos idiomas

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de esta familia, los eruditos han logrado reconstruir gran parte del original idioma indoeuropeo, del cual han provenido los idiomas modernos de la familia.

Sanskrit	Latin	German	English	indo european
vaks	vox	——	voice	vaks
matri	mater	mutter	mother	matar

Además: hay también la gran familia de idiomas semíticos (que incluye el hebreo, el arábigo, el egípcio antiguo, y otros idiomas) y la gran familia finno-ugriana, que incluye el finlandés, el magyar (idioma de Hungría), y varios idiomas asiáticos, incluso los idiomas de algunos pueblos muy primitivos. Estas familias son distintas a la familia indoeuropea y no se derivan del antiguo idioma indoeuropeo. Pero:

Sanskrit	Latin	German	English	Indoeuropean	Finnish	Ancient Egyptian
shash	sex	sechs	six	?	——	sas
saptan	septem	sieben	seven	septm	seitsemän	sefekh
svásar	soror	Schwester	sister	svasar(?)	sisar	(senti? serau = girl)
	nomen	Name	name		nimi	
	mare	Meer	(sea)		meri	

Esto tiende a confirmar lo que dicen los eruditos: que hay algún parentezco — aunque lejano — entre las familias semítica y finno-ugria, y la indoeuropea. He adquirido un libro sobre el antiguo idioma egipcio y otro sobre el finlandés — pero, como dije, no te interesas por tales cosas. Alma de nabo.

I forgot to say: I looked up that book on schizophrenia, and apparently it is no longer in print. Though "Books in print" does list a number of other books on the same subject. Wish I'd saved that book while I had it. It said, among other things: If at all possible, schizophrenics should be treated at home and not put in the nuthouse, because conditions in many mental institutions are terrible.

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Moreover, many directors of mental institutions whose training is in the area of Freudianism and psycho-analysis insist on treating schizophrenics by means of "talking therapy" — which is useless for schizos because their problem originates in the chemistry of the brain. In another book I read that a number of normal people, as part of an experiment, signed themselves into public and private mental institutions all over the U.S. They later had some difficulty in getting released, and eventually were all released as "schizophrenics in remission"!! This is ridiculous, because according to that book on schizophrenia there is a series of clear-cut, objective tests that reliably determine whether a person has the chemical abnormality that leads to schizo-phrenia. Probably most nut-house personnel (like uncle Benny) just work in a nut-house cause they can't get a better position, so are generally low quality; furthermore, many or most have probably been trained in the psychoanalytic tradition and

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don't know anything about biochemistry or genetics, hence refuse to admit that psychoanalysis is useless for their patients, who doubtless are mostly schizos and manic-depressives, since this would amount to admitting that they themselves are not competent to fill their positions.

All this makes one wonder whether Joel's mother, or our cousin Nora, have had proper treatment. As you know, I take a dim view of miracle drugs and all that technological crap, and I would respect someone who made an intelligent decision not to use that stuff — I might well make such a decision myself in such a case — but it is disgusting that people who may be in severe suffering are victimized by crackpot psychoanalysts and people who "put crystals on their body" and shit like that. Though that book doesn't seem to be available, you might think whether you can find some way of calling to Joel's father's attention these facts about schizos — if you think that may be Joel's problem.

— Ted

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